COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, November 29th, 1883

The Board of Aldermen met at 7:30 p.m., the Mayor in the chair; also present, Ald. Birrell, Hyman, O'Meara, Cowan, Labatt, Moore, Stringer, Browne, Skinner, Hunt, Boyd and A. S. Abbott, city clerk. Members of the Board of Education and others interested in the London Junction route were present.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Mrs. Boomer, president of the Protestant Orphans' Home—Asking free use of the City Hall on the night of Thursday, 20th, to hold an entertainment. Granted.

J. H. Belton - Asking permission to erect a frame office to be bricked outside. No. 3

Petitions against the passing of the bylaw to run the L. J. R. track on York street were presented from the following: E J Edwards and 17 others; John Riddle and 17 others; C. B. Rudd and 25 others; John Rayner and 24 others; and S. Baskerville and 23 others. No. 1 Committee:

Mr. Bayly, chairman of the Joint Committee, reported the offer made the railway people, and stated that they had declined it.

It being noticed that the representatives of the railway company were not present, Ald. Birrell stated that they were waiting for telegraphic communication from Toronto, and on their behalf he asked time. Fifteen minutes were allowed.

Ald. Hyman, on behalf of Number One Committee, reported recommending that the lease of the store held by Robert Clarke, in the City Hall, be assigned to Mrs. M. E. Babcock. Adopted.

At this juncture Messrs. Whyte, Brown, J. H. Fraser, and M. D. Fraser, of the L. J. R., arrived, and addressed the Council.

Ald. Boyd moved, seconded by Ald. Hyman, that the Council adjourn for one week. Carried.

Council adjourned accordingly.

Joint Committee in Session.

The Council having adjourned, the Joint Committee resumed their session, Mr. Bayly in the chair.

Mr. M D. Fraser read the following proposition:

Proposal of the London Junction Railway Company:

1. The company are prepared to purchase the whole school block at the sum of $15 per foot on King street, and the same price on York street, and allow the School Board two years to remove the buildings from the property, the company in the meantime agreeing to use the south 100 feet of the block only.

Or the company will purchase the south half of the block at a valuation to be settled by arbitration, one arbitrator to be appointed by the School Board, one by the company and the third as provided by the Railway Act, the basis of the valuation of the property to be actual cash value of the land, irrespective of the value of the buildings or the damage (if any) to the remaining portion of the block for school or other purposes.

Or the company will purchase this south 100 feet and settle or adjust the price on the same basis and in the same manner as above provided for the south half.

In case of the purchase of the south half, the School Board to have twwo years to remove the buildings, the company in the meantime only using the south 100 feet as before mentioned, the arbitration to be made and concluded, and possession given by the 20th of December.

Or the company will agree to purchase the whole block at a valuation to be settled by arbitration, to be the actual value of the land irrespective of the value of any buildings on the property.

Mr. Cousins said his valuation was double, or $30 per foot.

Mr. Bayly—The offer in the first clause of the offer now made cannot be considered. We could not justify ourselves before the ratepayers.

Mr. M. D. Fraser—We will arbitrate for the value of the whole block of land, but the building is utterly worthless to us. We would consent to leave the buildings for school purposes for two years.

Mr. Cousins and Ald. Moore thought they made too liberal offers to the railway people.

Mr. Whyte—Another suggestion has just been made to me. It is that we might obtain a right of way in rear of Mr. Leonard's foundry, providing the city would give him that portion of York street which he has now got fenced in and has been using for years.

Moved by Mr. Kingston, seconded by Ald. Hyman,

That the Joint Committee of the Board of Education and the City Council recommend to their respective corporations that the whole of the Central School grounds be sold to the L. J. R. Co. at a valuation to be determined by three arbitrators, to be appointed, one by the Board of Education, one by the railway company and the third according to the provisions of the Railway Clauses Consolidation Act, the arbitrators to take into consideration the value of the buildings on the said land for the purposes other than educational; the Board of Education to be allowed to use the said buildings until the 1st of October, 1885.

Carried unanimously.

On behalf of the railway people.

Mr. M. D. Fraser announced that the railway could not entertain the proposal.

The Mayor said all the Joint Committee could do was to adjourn and report the proposals made on both sides to the respective boards. It was decided to do this. The Board of Education meets Tuesday night next. In the meantime inquiry will be made as to the feasibility of running the road in rear of Leonard's foundry, as suggested.

Several members of the committee subsequently expressed the view that the Council made a mistake in not voting down the by-law which proposes to give a right of way on York street.